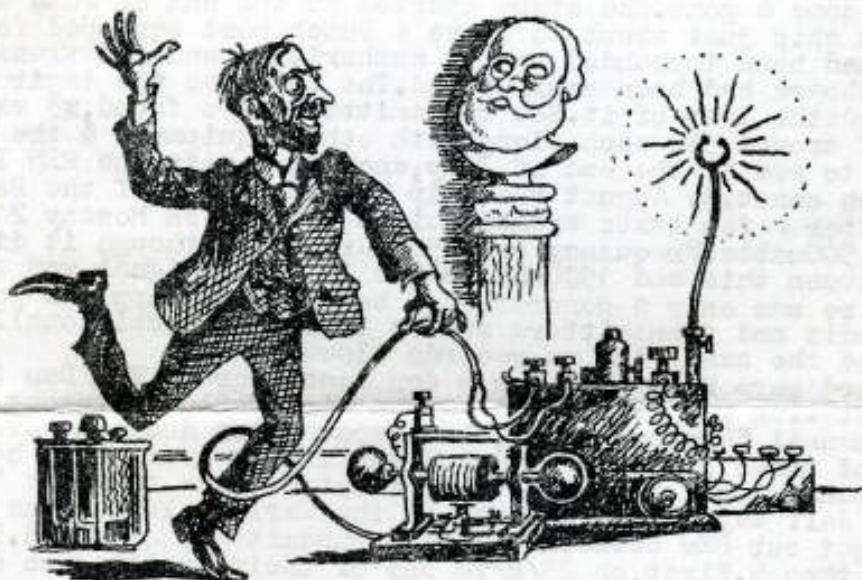


Back at last!

NO:18 **FREE RADIO FOCUS**

As recommended in the 1978 World Radio TV Handbook.....



In this edition: French Free Radio
Radio Del Mare
Popularity Poll
+ all the usual Offshore
and landbased free radio news!

20p + sae (or 3 IRCs) from: 13, The Chase, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10-6HW, U.K.

Free Radio Focus published by "Free & Offshore Radio Publicity"
13, The Chase, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10-6HW, England. Editor: Mark Dezzani.
Price: 20p + p&p (blank p.o.'s or cash) or 3 IRCs.
Editorial.

Hello & welcome to FRF18, yes we are back at last after a prolonged absence due mainly to trouble with our old printers. It was decided then to get pages 3-8 duplicated & only the front & back pages printed. Well the middle pages were done very quickly but we didn't get instant results from our printers to say the least & so the back & back pages are duplicated also. Hence the material on pages 3-8 may be slightly dated! One item on these pages which is now wrong is the date for the next edition of FRF (no. 19) which will now be out in January 1979 and by then everything will have been sorted out (hopefully!).

Thanks for your patience & a happy christmas,

Mark Dezzani, (Editor.)

FOCUS NEWSREEL

RADIO DEL MARE Since the last edition of FRF a new offshore radio station has come & gone. The story started at the end of June when we heard that a ship just about to leave a Dutch port equipped for radio broadcasts had been impounded by the authorities and all transmitting equipment onboard had been confiscated. The ship was the Aegir and we had not heard the last of it. New transmitters were found, 3 ex-Belgian army tx's of around 3kw each along with other equipment & the Aegir slipped out to sea at the end of July, anchoring near the REM Island off the Dutch coast. By August the ship had anchored off the Belgian coast and after a few tests transmissions started on Monday 21/8/78 with around 500watts. Frequency was 1566kHz, 192m although it did tend to drift between this and 1570kHz. On the 22/8 the signal was slightly stronger. There was only 1 generator on board which supplied power for both the studio and transmitters and as it failed occasionally, the carrier faded the same time as records slowed!

DJs on board were Rene de Leeuw & Jan Romer. Gerard Van Dam the man behind the station was also heard on the air. Studio equipment consisted of: A 6 channel "Faylon" mixer, three spotmaster decks, 2 Revox tape recorders and three jingle machines. Transmitting hours were between 08.00 & 17.00hrs local time and their adopted theme tune was "Eve of the War" by Jeff Wayne from the War of the Worlds album. Plans were in hand to get out 8kw between all the transmitters on board. Trouble was in hand though. First, on 25/8/78 one of their tenders was arrested on its way back to Scheveningen. The final blow came in September when in high winds the ship began to drift. It drifted into Dutch territorial waters & on 11/9/78 the ship was impounded by the Dutch authorities and chained up in Rotterdam. The following mailing address was given out during its few transmissions; Radio Del Mare, Oldvic, Marbella, Spain.

Radio Caroline At the time of compiling these final pages of FRF (early November) the radioship Mi-Amigo is silent & has been since 20/10/78. This is because the generator on board used for supplying power to the transmitter has packed up. The people onboard were aware of the generator being in a poor condition and hence Caroline had been closing down early, and on the 19/10 they were off the air altogether. Radio Mi-Amigo did not want to lose advertising revenue & insisted they stay on the air. The generator couldn't take it and packed up altogether. The stations have therefore been silent for a few weeks as new parts had to be bought & a generator engineer found.

Meanwhile, since FRF17 we have heard many rumours concerning the equipping of a new ship. The fact that the Mi-Amigo will be replaced is known, but where & when we are not sure. Among the rumours are that one is being fitted out in Greenore (!!) & Spain & that the Spanish tourist board is supplying cash!!! Continued Opposite...

We would like to apologise to readers for all our spelling mistakes & typographical errors in this edition as it was compiled in a hurry & we did not have any correction fluid for the stencils. No. 19, out in January should be back to our usual standard if not better!

Order now!

Focus newsreel cont'd.....

Caroline (cont'd)..... This is plausible though as tourism in Gerona & specifically Playa de Aro in Spain has increased substantially due to the adverts on Radio Mi Amigo and the situation of their studios in the province. It seemed inevitable that the Mi-Amigo would have to be put into retirement (!) as the ship is in a very bad condition, many parts are in fact cordoned off. Dutch dj's Mark Jacobs, Frank Van der Mast & Hugo Molenoff had to be persuaded to return by the payment of danger money after shoreleave. Anyway, if these rumours concerning a new ship for Caroline/Mi Amigo are true, which we hope they are we can expect the restart of the 24hr/day English service to start once it has been put into service.

More concrete news about the Caroline organisation is that following a trip to the USA by Ronan O'Rahilly and Peter Chicago they decided to put Caroline out on VHF/FM in stereo as well as on medium wave.

Since the last edition of FRF, Caroline's onshore activities have gone into full swing. In addition to the Caroline Roadshow which appears in various towns in Eastern England every weekend, the Caroline 'Funbus' toured various coastal resorts in August & early September as well as appearing at various public events. A multitude of promotional (& other) items are also being advertised, e.g. can radios, corduroy jeans, belts etc! More Del Mare news. As we were compiling this magazine some very sad news was received about the new radio ship of the Belgium coast. On Monday 11th August in the morning, due to high winds the ship dragged its anchor and drifted up the coast. Some reports say that it then got stuck on a sandbank but we heard that it went into the port of Rotterdam. On the same day there was a court case concerning the operators of the station. It was also being decided by the people of the station whether to continue using the MV Aegir or whether to get a new ship. We suppose that their decision will be greatly influenced by the Dutch authorities, i.e. whether the ship is impounded or not! The saga of Radio Del Mare can be seen on page 2. If we receive any further news before the mag goes to print it will be printed elsewhere in this edition.

Mediterranean Offshore News. Since the last edition of FRF the transmissions from the Peace ship were disrupted whilst the operator, Abe Nathan went on a fast for peace in the Middle East. Abe's condition was critical before he was persuaded to give up by a plea from the Israeli cabinet. Whilst the hunger strike was in progress the only thing broadcast by the Voice of Peace was a continuous loop of John Lennon's "Give Peace a Chance." The Peace ship is now back on the air with regular programmes on 1538kHz, 190m... Meanwhile off the Libyan coast the ex-RNI ship Mebo II has been relatively inactive. Only relays of the Libyan home service have been heard as opposed to the continuous music tests broadcast last year and early this year.

Focus Newsreel continued overpage with Landbased free radio news.*****

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1)Free Broadcasting magazine no.1. The first of our bi-monthly mags, full of interesting articles by Michael Cottee, Pat Stephens, Chris Martin & Mike Knight. Read about R.Jackie, R.Free Scotland, Free Radio service GB & lots more for only 5p!

2)Free Broadcasting mag. no.2. March/April issue, contains more & better articles including ones on the Mi-Amigo boat trips, R.Invicta & Jackie (part 2), how to run a pirate & lots more for 10p.

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5)Mini sticker: Either Caroline, RMA, Nova, V.O. Peace & F.r/tv. Any combination of 15 for just 5p!

***** Good value for money & better goods from the FBM!*****

Page 4.

Focus Newsreel continued...

Short Wave Landbased News..European Music Radio continues to broadcast regularly every 3rd Sunday of the month on 6265kHz from 09.00GMT. On their 20/8 transmission though after closing down on 6265 they conducted a test on the 41mb. 7315kHz. Results were very good on the continent but in the UK it was found 48m is more suitable. Therefore, as from their Sept. broadcast programmes have been simulcast on both 6265 & 7315 with 40W and 20W respectively.

Their current programme schedule runs as follows; 09.00 Barry Stephens Flashback show: 09.15 Free Radio spot: 09.30 AJ Beirnes DX prog: 10.00 Roger Tates mailbox show: 10.30 German show: 10.45 Swedish show: 11.00 Steve Leonards: 11.30 Robert Bond or Barry Stephens. Closeshow at 12.00a. Radio Zodiac Int' Since the last edition of FRF, RZI has established itself as a regular broadcaster every 4th Sunday of the month on either 6270 or 6275kHz. Their current schedule is; 10.30 Stuart Clark-Punk show: 11.00 Dave Hunt-Top 10 albums: 11.30 Roger Vosene-ZO-DX (Listeners letters & a featured album): 12.15 Free Radio news: 12.30 Mark Anthony-Disco show: 13.00 John Thomas-Requests & Oldies: 13.30 Guest dj: 14.00 Close. For transmissions from March-Sept(inc.) transmissions start at 09.30 GMT. Transmitter power is 20watts & their address is; c/o 13, The Chase, Crawley, Sussex, UK.

Radio Mercury is to start a regular once a month schedule following a series of tests earlier this year. The official opening was on 6/8/78 & they hope to be on every 2nd Sunday of the month on around 6.27MHz. They also hope to supplement these transmissions by being on some 1st Sundays & also some Sat/Sun evenings on 227m medium wave. DJs are Dave Anderson, Stuart Clark & Tony Lloyd. Mailing address is; PO Box 41, 7700AA Dedemsvaart, Holland.

Radio 49 is a new station on the air since the last edition of FRF. Their first broadcast took place at the end of June on 6217kHz and they were on every week up until 20/8 when they made their last transmission for a week whilst they built new equipment. 49 were back on over the weekend of the 9/10 Aug 78 Sept. testing. Programmes resumed on 17/9 & they say that they will be on every other week. Since the station started they have used several addresses but their new permanent mailing address is c/o 13, The Chase, Crawley, Sussex, UK.

Radio Cavendish is a new station whose first broadcast went out on 6260kHz on 6/8/78. However due to a fault in the modulation transformer the audio was very low (only about 20%). The programme was then repeated a week later on 13/8 after the fault had been rectified. Response to this second broadcast was much better with nearly 60 reports being received for it. The only dj presently on the station is Phil Collins who has also been heard on R. Corsair. Cavendish's address is, c/o Kent Place, Norwell, Newark, Notts, Eng. Transmitter power is approx. 20watts.

Empire Radio is yet another new station which has started transmitting since our last edition. Test went out in July under no specific callsign and an address of, Kent Place, Norwell, Newark, Notts, Eng was announced with the prefix of "Dept. TB" (TB designating 'Test broadcast'). Tests went out on 6200kHz which is actually in the official 49m broadcast band. Reception though has been surprisingly good despite it's vicinity to the strong 'legal' stations. The first broadcast under it's new callsign was heard on 23/7/78 and a subsequent broadcast was heard on 10/9/78 both on 6200kHz.

R. Solent City Int' returned to the airwaves on 16/7/78 testing on 6290 kHz. They were also on the air on 30/7 testing on 6285 & 6235kHz. RSCI had been off the air for a while due to domestic problems. We have now been assured that they will be resuming some sort of regular service possibly on 6275. Some new stickers have been printed and new QSL cards are on the way. Mailing address is; Kent Place, Norwell, Newark, Notts, England. A new dj on the station is Mark Wynters, Steve Hill has also been heard.

Focus newsreel continued opposite!

Don't forget to vote in this years popularity poll!! Details opposite!

POPULARITY POLL 1978. Yes folks it's here again! The pop poll started by us in 1976 & now run in conjunction with Free Radio Waves magazine! All you have to do is name your three choices(in order of preference) for the following three catagories;a)Best station..b)Best Programmes & c)Best QSL card. Any free radio station that has been on in the past 12 months on either short wave,medium wave or VHF/FM is eligible for your vote. Please remember,only landbased free radio stations are included in the poll.

So think carefully and send your votes in as soon as possible to us on a postcard, in a letter or with your next order for "Free Radio Focus" magazine. Please do vote and so make this poll the most successful yet. (If you have already sent a vote to Free Radio Waves mag. do not vote again!)

Focus Newsreel continued...

Radio Viking is the only Scandinavian pirate being heard lately in Britain with any regularity. They usually transmit on 6240kHz but have lately been logged on 6225 & 6255kHz. DJs are Oscar Hansson, Poul Anthony and Phil Hazelton. A very nice new glossy QSL has been printed as well as printed envelopes! Other attractive promotional material of their's was featured in FRT no. 17. Their address is; PO Box 4040, Amsterdam, Eng. Other Scandinavian stations currently active on 48m include; R. SNOOPY INT on 6200, address; Postbus 50, Oude Pekala, Holland.... R. BAMBINO on 6205, address; PO Box 41, DEDEMSVAART, Holland.... WEST COAST R. on 6207, address unknown.... R. BOLS on 6224, 6230 & 6235, address as R. Snoopy!.... R. SYLVANIA on 6225 & 6229, address as R. Snoopy.... R. FLAMINGO on 6235, address as R. Bambino.... R. DOLBY INT on 6260, address as R. Bambino.... R. STATION VOICES IN THE SKY(!) on 6260, address unknown.... R. STAR on 6276, address unknown. Radio Bols is notorious for very bad programmes, R. Bambino's programmes are very plain. R. Snoopy's QSL is said to be very good. A good publication for more detailed info on these stations is DX PRESSEN, journal of the "Ornskoldsviks Radio Club" published in Swedish & English. A sample copy can be obtained for 3IRCs from; Morkullevagen 35, S-891 00 Orns-koldsvik, Sweden.

ABC England have sadly closed down since FRF17 was published. The last broadcast went out on 7/5/78 on 6270. ABC will best be remembered for their excellent free radio news service. The close was forced by pressure from raids by the Colchester Radio Services Division resulting in court cases. The last such case took place on 21/1/78 when station member Philip Jefferson was fined £100+£75 costs.

ABC Europe have been resurrected, taped shows from their Dutch dj's have been broadcast over FRBC's powerful 700watt transmitter. It is now believed that the transmitter is presently run at approx. 200watts. ABCs programmes are broadcast every few weeks on 6220kHz. ABCs address is; PO Box 27, Hoeven, Holland.

Pyramid R. is a new station run by an ex-Britain R. staff member & was heard on 21/5/78 on 6825kHz. They used the "Kent Place" address. Not much more has been heard from this station though!

more has been heard from this station though. Westside R. from Dublin has been on nearly every Sunday recently at 09.00GMT on 6280kHz with DJ Prince Terry. Address is; 53, Charleston Road, Dublin, Ireland. Condor R. who also use this address are often heard QSOing with Westside. Condor transmit on 6317kHz but on 10/9/78 they were heard on 6243.5kHz.

R. Valleri also from Dublin still broadcast nearly every week on 6202.5. Since they have been back on the air they have produced some new promotional material featuring a guitar motif.

tional material featuring a guitar motif. LOGBook(or is that Logbook?!!) Follows of our detailed 48m logbook will notice that it is missing this edition. Well it will return in the next edition, so please send your logs as from 1/9/78 from which we will compile our famous logbook! Logbook fans can obtain a copy of logs from 1/1/78 to 27/3/78 by sending 10p + sae(or 10p with their next order for FBF.

Focus newsreel continued on page 9 with more SW & MW/FM news....

FRENCH FREE RADIO.

A brief insight into the present wave of Free Radio activity in France was given in an article in FRF17 about the ecological station, Radio Verte. It is estimated that at present in France there are around 50 stations ranging from radically political broadcasts to top 40. Here is a list of the more regular or significant stations that can be heard in Paris, with the exception of Radio Fil Bleu which broadcasts from Montpellier.

Radio Verte (92MHz) Historically one of the most important pirate stations in France, Radio Verte kicked off the current pirate boom in late '76 when the ecologists used it as a vehicle for their surprisingly effective campaign during the municipal elections. No longer an organ of the ecologists (though it still has vague links with them), Radio Verte resumed broadcasting in May featuring news, debates, music & a review of the press. Can be heard Monday through Friday from 7-8am, Saturday from 8-10am & 9am-noon Sunday.

Radio 93 (92, that's right, 92MHz) Broadcasting daily from the northern suburb of St.Denis, Radio 93 is audible from the northern suburbs to the centre of Paris. Those listening on April 28th were treated to the first on air bust in French telecommunications history as the DST (French telecommunications Police) raided the studio at Degling's bookstore, seizing 15,000Francs worth of equipment & taking nine of the staff to the Police station. Meanwhile, with a little help from it's freinds, Radio 93 has resumed broadcasting it's extremely left wing programmes at 11pm daily giving a voice to Portuguese immigrants, minority groups & championing causes regarded by them as being injust-iced. Their address is; Librairie des Degling's, 4 rue Lanne, 93200 St. Denis. 820.24.16. Paris.

Radio 93's operators have not yet received a summons regarding their raid in April.

Radio Fil Rose (96 or 105MHz) Taking to the air last February, Fil Rose (Pink line) has the reputation for having one of the best DJs in town and as the name suggests programming is oriented towards a gay audience although they also take an anti-Fascist stance. Broadcasting daily from the centre of Paris, Fil Rose is occasionally overlooked by the TDF jammers & is therefore one of the most easily receivable pirate stations. Address: RFR, chez l'LLot-Fou, BP 449, 75122 Paris Cedex 03.

Generation 2000 (96MHZ) Station chief, Thomas B. Sertilange has kept his politics to the centre of the French political spectrum & so he keeps his station's programme content decidedly unpolitical but very commercialised. Indeed a major advertising agency is the stations publicist. Their luxurious studios stand in dark contrast to the home made outfits most pirates have. To date, G 2000 have made few broadcsats the most publicised of which was with publicist chief Marcel Bleustein-Blanchet who was a pioneer of French commercial radio nearly 30years ago before it was swallowed up by the state monopoly. On the irregular occasions G 2000 has broadcast it has been jammed less vigorously than the more political stations. Address: 35, rue Boileau, 16e Paris.

Radio Cent (100MHZ) Local news, special documentary reports from foreign countries, African music and the like, each night from 9.30-midnight. Address: 45 route des Gardes, 92190 Meudon.

Radio Onz's' Debrouille (102 MHz) Onz' Debrouille (Radio We Get By, but also a play on words referring to jamming) are champions of community radio. They broadcast daily at 11pm & Sunday at 10am bringing listeners interviews, neighbourhood news & direct broadcasts from nearby "cafe-theatres" in broadcasts that last anywhere from 30mins to 3 hours. Even when being jammed they can be received in certain parts of the city, namely an area bounded by Bastille, Canal St. Martin, Gare de Lyon & Ledru Rollin. Address: Librairie 1984, 22 bd. de Reuilly, 12e Paris.

Continued opposite on page 7.....

French Free Radio continued....

Abbeses Echo (102MHz) One of a handful of pirate stations with a very limited power-others include 15eme delire, Radio Jaures, Radio Rond Point, Radio Essone-Abbeses focuses on serving the "animation du quartier" (local life & events) it's neighbourhood being the Place des Abbeses in the 18th district. Broadcasts take place each Saturday at 11am.

Radio Noct-iluque (104MHz) Radio Firefly as it is translated broadcasts music & "emissions fantastiques" each night from 8-9pm.

Radio Fil Bleu - Legally Fil Bleu has gone further to break the state monopoly than any of the pirates. Associated with high ranking Giscardian lawyers & politicians, this Montpellier outfit filed a suit against the government challenging the constitutionality of the monopoly.

Prior to July the only action the French authorities could take against these pirate stations was to jam them. (No action was taken against anyone after Radio 93 was raided.) There are two notable jamming stations in Paris, Eiffel Tower & Buttes Chaumont transmitting a 1000Hertz whistle on top of most pirates.

In late June however the National Assembly took it's first official action in response to the burgeoning threat by the pirate radio movement against the state controlled broadcasting monopoly. Their decision: though all offenders prior to July of this year will be granted amnesty is that from July, radio pirates if apprehended will be subject to a fine of between 10,000 & 100,000francs and to imprisonment of between one month & one year. In addition the government will be given the right to seize the equipment of those who are broadcasting illegally.

The assembly's action, the first legislative response to the pirates, struck a serious blow to the free radio movement, significantly upping the stakes in their battle. Critical as the assembly's action was, one bright spot had remained. Just before its August recess though, the Conseil Constitutionnel, France's highest judicial body, snuffed out any hope the free radio movement might have had of breaking the state broadcasting monopoly for the time being.

On July 7, more than 60 members of the national assembly, led surprisingly enough by the highest members of the socialist party, many of whom in the past had been strong supporters of the monopoly, put before the Conseil the most powerful legal challenge yet to the new laws prohibiting the unauthorized broadcasting. Last week that challenge was (in mid August) denied by the conseil which refused to rule on the constitutionality of the new law. Those hoping for a liberalization of the broadcasting laws saw this ruling as a major defeat. Most of the stations with the notable exception of Fil Rose & a couple of others, stopped broadcasting. And for the moment few in the free radio movement had any ideas as to what direction their fight might take. This article was an edited version of one which appeared in the French magazine "Paris Metro". Many thanks to Pierre Birge for sending us this information.

Adverts.

The Free Radio Society is back in action. Caroline badges are available from them for 12p +sae from FRS, BCM-BRFM, London, WC1V-6XX.

Caroline dayglo stickers, only 30p for 5 (or 5IRCs or 1MO for 50p from Europe). Colours; Green, Yellow, Red, Orange, Pink. Mi-Amigo stickers also available at same price & in same colours. (Send an sae with each order to); Mail Order Service, 7, Broom Green, North Elmham, East Dereham, Norfolk, England. (Back no's of old SIRA mags still available from this address so send an sae or IRC for details.)

'Caroline 319m' monster car stickers. Self adhesive, 23" x 3". 30p each or 4 for £1 or 10 for £2. Send blank PO/Cheque plus large sae to; BCM-BRFM, London, WC1V 6XX, England.

FREE RADIO FOCUS NO.19 is out in November. Order now!*****

Latest News.

Just before we go to press here is the latest news!

European Music Radio have a brand new schedule which will start as from their 15th October transmission, it is;

09.30-CARTE BLINCHE. An international programme in several different languages presented by AJ Beirnes.

10.00-FLASHBACK SHOW-Oldies presented by Barry Stephens.

10.15-FREE RADIO SPOT-Recording of a MW or FM free radio station.

10.30-DX PROGRAMME-Presented by AJ Beirnes with DX news & an offshore radio recording spot.

11.15-Landbased free radio news & music presented by STEVE LEONARDS.

11.40-MAILBOX SHOW-with Roger Tate

12.15-ROBERT BONDS MUSIC SHOW.

12.30-German pop show with RAINER.

12.45-Swedish pop show with TONY SCOTT.

13.00-Close.

Sometimes as a special bonus at 13.00 there will be an English pop show. This schedule replaces the one on page 4.

Radio Corsair have announced that they will no longer issue any QSL cards as they are fed up with just receiving boring reception reports from listeners with no programme comments or criticisms. Previous to this they featured very interesting cards which can be seen in FRF no. 16.

Radio Zodiac Int & Radio 49 have merged! They both made their final broadcasts under their separate callsigns on ~~xx~~ Sept 24th. RZI on 6275 kHz & Radio 49 on 6215kHz. Broadcasts under the new name start on Oct 8th & will then be on every 2nd & every 4th Sunday of each month from 09.00 -12.00gmt in Summer & from the end of Oct -end of March on from 10.00 till 13.00gmt. Frequency will either 6275 or 6225kHz. The new identity of the station is to Radio Zodiac-49!

The address to be used will be; 13, The Chase, Crawley, Sussex, RH10-6HW, England. The new programme schedule is not yet known although we hope to print it in full for the next edition of FRF. New QSL cards, Information sheets & stickers for the station are to be printed. Schedule for the 2nd Sundays is thought to be; 10.00-John Dawson, Oldie show including a competition: 11.00 Roger Vosene, ZO-DX (A mailbox and music show). 12 till close, International programmes. Schedule for the 4th Sunday transmission is different & will be announced soon.

Radio Viking was raided during their broadcast on 10th September on 6250kHz. It is not known how much equipment was lost or if anyone was caught.

Radio Solent City Int have some very nice new QSL cards available in either black or blue. New stickers & info sheets have also been printed. RSCI will broadcast every 1st Sunday of the month as from 1/10/78 on the new frequency of 6270kHz. New DJs on the station are Mark Wynters, Steve Hill, original DJ Mike Jay can still be heard. Their address; Kent Place, Norwell, Newark, Notts, Eng.

Radio Caroline has had many new adverts recently which can only be good for the station. At press time though (26/9/78) they are having generator problems and are short of oil. Because of this they are on low power in the evenings & are closing down each night at 01.00 British time. Female DJ, Samantha returned to the air on Thursday 21/9/78 after nearly a year off the ship following her being prosecuted by the Dutch government for her involvement in Caroline.

===== FREE RADIO FOCUS no. 19 will be out in November. Order your copy now for 20p+sa (blank ~~xx~~ P.Os or cash please) or 3IRCs to;

13, The Chase, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10-6HW, England.

In no. 19 we'll have the very latest offshore & landbased free radio news + the return of our famous 48m logbook (see page 5) + many features etc...

***** DON'T FORGET TO VOTE IN OUR POPULARITY POLL.. See page 5 for details!... *****

Focus Newsreel cont'd from p.5....

As can be seen from the "Latest news" on the opposite page, the middle pages were printed in October & so on these back pages we have some updated Offshore & landbased news as well as the medium wave & FM landbased news.

Radio Caroline As this final page goes to print (23/11/78) programming from the Mi-Amigo has still not resumed although all spare parts needed to repair the generator & some engineers are on board undertaking the necessary work and by the time you receive this mag Caroline should be back on the air. It is not known though if Mi-Amigo the Dutch daytime service will be on though as we have received reports that the Radio Mi-Amigo organisation have terminated their contract. Sources suggest that a new Dutch service under the name of Radio 3.1.9. or Radio Hilanda will take over the daytime spot.

Whilst Caroline have been off the air the 50kw transmitter onboard has been serviced & should now run at 40kw plus thus putting out a much stronger signal than before. The all day English service of Caroline however will not return until the second generator onboard which has been out of action for some time is repaired. When transmissions resume from the Mi-Amigo we can expect some old familiar voices to be heard!

Radio Del Mare Further to the news on Del Mare on page 2 we understand that Gerard Van Dan has either found a new ship or has the old ship, Aegir back from the authorities & that transmissions will resume in the new year. This is unconfirmed though.

Scan Radio A few weeks ago there were many rumours that a new station called Scan Radio will start soon off the Danish coast with programmes in English & Danish. The prospective operators though say that the project has been cancelled due to backers withdrawing their support because of excessive pre publicity.

Short Wave Landbased news.

A new station called Kountryside Radio (Voice of Britain) was heard for the first time on 19/11/78 on 6270kHz from 12.00hrs approx with 20watts. On this occasion it was being relayed via another transmitter although they will have their own transmitter soon & plan to be on every week on another frequency. Programmes consist of Top 40 pop & much interesting radio information. Their address is: c/o 13, The Chase, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10-6hw, England. DJs are Rob Roy, Terry St. James & Simon Jay.

Another new station called Radio Amy was heard on 19/11/78 on 6270kHz after the above station had closed down at 13.00hrs GMT. A short test of music & IDs was given out with the following address: 13, The Chase, etc..... ABC Europe (as featured on p.5) has closed down for good. This follows inevitable hounding by the Home Office because of the very high power that was used by the station. The ABC Europe team are currently trying to get a legal transmitting station sorted out, possibly situated in Northern Italy.

R. Sunshine Int' will be off the air for 6-8 weeks whilst they undertake the construction of a new studio. They lost the use of their last studio. Meanwhile, DJ Victor Hartman who did the "Chainsaw" programme has been asked to leave the station due to his use of bad language on the air.

Radio Zodiac-49 will make it's first 41nb transmission on 26/11/78 on or near 7340kHz. This channel will carry a different special test programme than the usual programmes which will be going out on 6275kHz. The schedule for their 2nd & 4th Sunday transmissions have been confirmed & are as follows: 2nd Sundays-10.00 John Dawson Oldies show: 11.00 Roger Vosene with "ZO-DX" (Listeners letters, FR news & music): 12.00 German show: 13.00 French show: 12.30 French show: 13.00 Roger Anderson: 14.00 Close: 4th Sundays..... 10.00 Dave Hunt with Top 10 albums & FR news: 11.00 Stuart Clark with the punk show: 11.45 Mark Anthony with the Disco show: 12.30 Steve Anderson's oldie show: 13.00 "ZO-DX" with Roger Vosene & Dave Hunt: 14.00 Close. New QSL cards & stickers are now available from RZ49.

Focus newsreel continued overpage with medium wave & FM news.....

IMPORTANT: Despite what is said on pages 7 & 8, FRF19 will be out in January 1979 and not in December. Deadline for contributions e.g. Logbook, news, articles etc.. is Thursday January 18th 1979. Meanwhile, happy X-mas & a prosperous new year from all here at FRF!
+++++

Focus Newsreel continued.....

Landbased Medium wave & FM news...

LONDON Since the last edition of FRF landbased activity in the London area has increased enormously. Radio Jackie of course is still plugging away every Sunday on 1332kHz from 09.00-17.00hrs with a top 40 format despite a recent court case in which four alleged Jackie staff were fined £1,200 between them. On 23/11/78, the day all the BBC Radio network changed wavelengths R. Jackie broadcast from 06.00 until midnight with 200watts and no Home Office harassment! On the same day a Radio 5 was heard in North-West London on 222m from 10-13.00hrs with 40w. Programming was of a satirical nature with DJs Paul Lanbourghini, Tony Whitefreeze & their answer to the hairy monster, "TNT!!" A station logged regularly from North London since July is Celebration Radio on 235m, 1286kHz from 11.00-16.00hrs. Station format is based on album tracks which is proving a popular alternative to the many top 40 landbased stations audible in North London. Celebration's transmitter power is 20w & their mailing address is; 14, Hernitage Way, Stanmore, Middlesex. Other North London stations heard recently are, North London R. on 221m with a very much pop oriented format and R. Any (which stands for 'Alternative music for you!') on 222m, this station was a breakaway group from NLR and features a lot of local news + top 40 music. A rock & roll station, Radio City is heard regularly on 239m with very good programming every Sunday afternoon. The heavy rock station Telstar 1 on 1277kHz is now only on the air sporadically after much activity early in the year... A south London station which opened in August, Radio 2.20 seems to have closed down. They put out very good programmes every Sunday from 15.30-16.30. They used an address in Crawley Down... Radio Elaine made their final transmission on 29/10/78 on 186m although reception was limited to a local audience. The transmission was from 18.00-22.00hrs. Radio Jackie now has a Saturday service on 227m, 1332kHz which is based on an album format. This service will probably move to FM in the near future.. Moving to the FM band, activity in the London area has been equally ~~exciting~~ as exciting as medium wave..... Thameside R. has been heard with excellent signals every week on 90.2MHz from 19.00-20.00hrs. On 5/11/78 they were raided 20mins into the broadcast although it is not thought that the Home Office were the culprits as they usually stay on the site afterwards, but when the Thameside crew got there no one was around. It is thought that a group of people stole the equipment. Thameside's address is; 1, Grosvenor Parade, London W.5. DJs are Bob Edwards & Tony Lloyd... Radio Telstar South broadcast every Sunday from 19.00-2220.00hrs on 92.8MHz with an entirely oldies type format. Transmitter power is 200watts fed into a circular aerial. Mailing address is; 51, BR4 9bn, West Wickham, Kent... London's soul station Radio Invicta is still going strong every Sunday from 12.00-15.00 on 92.4MHz. The station has built up a large following & hosts special nights in local discos most nights of the week. Mailing address is; 30, Marius Road, London SW17. Radio Free London broadcasts every Sunday from 16.00-18.00hrs on 92.4MHz, their mailing address is; 148, George Lane, Lewisham, London. Other FM stations logged in London recently include Uptown R. & West London R. SOUTHERN ENGLAND.. Southcoast Radio is a new station from the Sussex coast. The first transmission was heard in October on 222m with good signals & an album format. Mailing address is; Kent Place, Norwell, Newark, Notts, England... Free Island Radio from the Isle of Wight or Hampshire coast has been heard fairly regularly in that area on Sundays on 222m & has received some attention in the local press.

More Focus newsreel in FRF19, out at the end of January, 1979!.....
Extra latest on Caroline: At time of going to press (23.00hrs, 23/11/78) strong carriers are being heard on 9963kHz, 312m from the Mi-Anigo & transmissions should commence on 24/11/78 & definitely by the time you receive this mag with some big names from the past on the air!!